

Application No. 09/830,907

Filed: June 19, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1754

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A star ~~Star~~ shaped alumina ~~extrudates~~ extrudate with a pore volume in pores of diameter of over 1000 nm, as determined by mercury porosimetry, of at least 0.05 ml/g, a side crushing strength of at least 50 N and a bulk crushing strength of at least 1 Mpa.
2. (Currently amended) The extrudate ~~Extrudates~~ according to claim 1, having a length of between 2 and 8mm.
3. (Currently amended) The extrudate ~~Extrudates~~ according to claim 1, having a length to diameter ratio of between 1 and 3.
4. (Currently amended) The extrudate ~~Extrudates~~ according to claim 1, wherein the total pore volume as determined by mercury porosimetry is between 0.5 and 0.75 ml/g.
5. (Currently amended) The extrudate ~~Extrudates~~ according to claim 1, wherein the BET surface area is at least 75 m²/g.
6. (Currently amended) The extrudate ~~Extrudates~~ according to claim 1, wherein ~~the attrition in accordance with~~, as determined

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by ASTM D4058-87, is less than 5 wt.%, ~~preferably less than 3 wt.%.|~~

7. (Currently amended) A catalyst ~~Catalyst~~, comprising at least one catalytically active material supported on an extrudate according to claim 1.

8. (Currently amended) The catalyst ~~Catalyst~~ according to claim 7, wherein the catalytically active material is selected from the group of metals, metal oxides, metal sulfides and combinations thereof.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently added) An extrudate ~~Extrudates~~ according to claim 2, having a length to diameter ratio of between 1 and 3.

11. (Currently amended) An extrudate ~~Extrudates~~ according to claim 10, wherein:

the total pore volume as determined by mercury porosimetry is between 0.5 and 0.75 ml/g;

the BET surface area is at least 75 m²/g; and

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the attrition ~~in accordance with~~, as determined by ASTM
D4058-87, is less than 5 wt.%, ~~preferably less than 3 wt.%.~~

12. (Currently amended) The catalyst of claim 7, wherein said
catalytically active material is Catalyst, comprising at least one
catalytically active material supported on an extrudate according
to claim 2.

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13. (Currently amended) The catalyst of claim 7, wherein said
catalytically active material is Catalyst, comprising at least one
catalytically active material supported on an extrudate according
to claim 3.

14. (Currently amended) The catalyst of claim 7, wherein said
catalytically active material is Catalyst, comprising at least one
catalytically active material supported on an extrudate according
to claim 4.

15. (Currently amended) The catalyst of claim 7, wherein said
catalytically active material is Catalyst, comprising at least one
catalytically active material supported on an extrudate according
to claim 5.

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16. (Currently amended) The catalyst of claim 7, wherein said catalytically active material is Catalyst, comprising at least one catalytically active material supported on an extrudate according to claim 6.

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17-19. (Cancelled)

20. (New) The extrudate of claim 6, wherein said attrition is less than 3 wt. %.

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21. (New) The extrudate of claim 11, wherein said attrition is less than 3 wt. %.